



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

---

*Vol. 144*

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1998

*No. 15*

---

## *Senate*

S1001

### COMBATING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, with the end of the Cold War, the terrible threat of nuclear holocaust has been substantially reduced. But the world is far from trouble-free. The threat of the 90's, perhaps to become the threat of the coming decade, is that posed by weapons of mass destruction in the hands of lesser powers--like Iraq or Iran--or even terrorist groups.

My esteemed colleague, the senior Senator from Indiana, has written a sobering article in today's issue of The Hill. His conclusion is one to which we should all pay attention:

Absent congressional support of a U.S. response to this threat as focused, serious and vigorous as America's Cold War strategy, Americans may have every reason to anticipate domestic or international acts of nuclear, chemical and biological terrorism

against American targets before another decade is out.

The Nunn-Lugar and related programs that help countries in the former Soviet Union to guard against diversion of material or technology relating to weapons of mass destruction are an important defense against such terrorism. Last year, I was pleased to co-sponsor Senator Lugar's amendment that restored full funding to these programs. This year, we would all be well advised to seek opportunities to expand these programs, as recommended in a study last year by the National Research Council, an arm of the National Academy of Sciences.

I commend Senator Lugar's article to my colleagues and ask unanimous consent that its text be printed in the Record.